

4413(3) WALTON & WEYBRIDGE
URBAN DISTRICT OF
WALTON & WEYBRIDGE

REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1947

Printed by
PHILPOTT & Co. (SURBITON) LTD.,
40-42, Brighton Road, Surbiton.

URBAN DISTRICT OF
WALTON & WEYBRIDGE

REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1947

Printed by
PHILPOTT & Co. (SURBITON) LTD.,
40-42, Brighton Road, Surbiton.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30250961>

ANNUAL REPORT

Council Offices,
Weybridge.

July, 1948.

To the Chairman and Members of the Walton and Weybridge Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Report for 1947.

From a perusal of the vital statistics which follow it will be seen that the birth rate is very similar to 1946, while the death rate continues to decline. The natural increase of population from excess of births over deaths is three hundred and one. The most remarkable figure is the continued fall in the infant mortality rate from 28.66 in 1946 to 17.96 in 1947.

For the second year in succession no cases of diphtheria were contracted in the district—a tribute to the high artificial immunisation rate achieved during recent years. The incidence of major infectious disease reached a new low level, despite the increased number of cases of poliomyelitis. This is dealt with in some detail later in the report.

Considerable progress was made with housing during the year and it was possible to rehouse one hundred and forty-five family units in new houses or requisitioned properties.

There is a clear case and need for the provision of suitable dwellings for old people and childless couples. The number of old people shows a steady increase over recent years and this will increase further with social security measures. These dwellings should be sited within easy reach of churches and shopping facilities as it is not in the best interests of old people that they should be segregated. A few small dwellings should be sited, if possible, on every Council Housing Estate.

The adequate housing of persons with open tuberculosis is also deserving of every attention. The patients cannot stay in a Sanatorium indefinitely and control of infection in the home will give the best results in eradicating this infection.

In conclusion I wish to express my thanks to Members and Officers of the Council, to the County Medical Staff and Medical Practitioners in the district for their very helpful assistance and co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. P. MACIVER,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Public Health Officers of the Authority:—

(a) Medical Officer of Health :

D. P. MACIVER, M.D., D.P.H.

The Medical Officer of Health acts in a similar capacity for the Urban District of Chertsey and the Rural District of Bagshot. He is also Medical Officer for Ottershaw Hospital for Infectious Diseases.

(b) Chief Sanitary Inspector :

H. T. CARD, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

W. G. COLLAM, M.S.I.A. (to 31st May, 1947).

W. H. HARRIS (from 5th August, 1947).

Assistants :

P. E. GUNNER.

A. E. GREENSMITH (from 14th July, 1947).

The Sanitary Inspectors hold the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board and also that of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

In addition to the duties of Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Card carries out those of Petroleum Officer and Chief Inspector under the Shops Acts.

The Additional Sanitary Inspector also fulfils duties as Shops Acts Inspector.

(c) Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health :

Miss J. M. Eglon holds a joint appointment. She is responsible for the secretarial duties appertaining to the work of the Medical Officer of Health in all three districts.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,049
Estimated resident population in July (estimate supplied by Registrar-General)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36,690
Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,200
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£476,632
A sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£1,891

Social Conditions, including Chief Occupations of the Inhabitants.

The more important industries in the area are associated with the manufacture of aircraft and aircraft accessories, electrical equipment and dental instruments, and the carrying on of market gardening.

Vital Statistics.

	1947	1946
Number of Births (legitimate and illegitimate)	668	663
Birth-Rate per 1,000 of the population	18.21	18.86
Number of Still Births	13	6
Number of Deaths	367	361
Death-Rate (actual) per 1,000 of the population	10.0	10.27
Natural increase of population during year by excess of births over deaths	301	302
Number of Deaths of Infants (under the age of one year)	12	19
Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births	17.96	28.66
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, child-birth	1	Nil
Death-Rate from Measles per 1,000 of the population ...	Nil	Nil
Death-Rate from the seven principal zymotic diseases : Smallpox, Whooping-cough, Measles, Diarrhoea, Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever and "Fevers" (Typhoid, Enteric and Typhus), per 1,000 of the population	0.03	Nil
Death-Rate from Diarrhoea and Enteritis of children under two years of age per 1,000 births	Nil	Nil
Death-Rate from all forms of Tuberculosis per 1,000 of the population	0.41	0.43
Death-Rate from Cancer per 1,000 of the population ...	1.66	1.79
Death-Rate from Heart Disease per 1,000 of the population	2.75	2.30
Death-Rate from Respiratory Diseases (non-tuberculous) ...	0.87	0.80

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

Live Births :	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	303	328	631
Illegitimate	21	16	37
Birth-Rate (per 1,000 estimated resident popu- lation)			18.21
1946			18.86
Mean of five years 1942 to 1946			18.35
Still Births	7	6	13
Rate per 1,000 total births			19.09
1946			13.39
Deaths (net)	176	191	367
1946	161	200	361
Death-Rate (per 1,000 estimated resident popu- lation)			10.0
1946			10.27
Mean of five years 1942 to 1946			10.83
Deaths from Puerperal Causes :	Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still) births.		
Puerperal Sepsis	0		
Other Puerperal Causes	1	1.45	
	—		
Total	1	1.45	
Total for 1946	0	0.00	
Death-Rate of Infants under one year of age :			
All infants per 1,000 live births			17.96
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...			17.43
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...			27.03

The following table shows the birth and death rates per 1,000 of the population of the District, and England and Wales, for 1946 and 1947.

COMPARATIVE BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

	Annual Rates per 1,000 of Population				Infantile Mortality per 1,000 live births		Maternal Mortality per 1,000 total births	
	Birth-Rate		Death-Rate					
	1947	1946	1947	1946	1947	1946	1947	1946
Walton and Weybridge U.D.	18.21	18.86	10.0	10.27	17.96	28.66	1.45	0.0
England and Wales	20.5	19.63	12.0*	11.5*	41†	43†	1.17	1.43

*Per 1,000 total population.

†Per 1,000 related births.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	M.	F.
ALL CAUSES:	176	191
Typhoid and paratyphoid Fevers	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	1
Diphtheria	—	—
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	8	4
Other forms of tuberculosis	2	1
Syphilitic diseases	2	—
Influenza	1	2
Measles	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	1	1
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—
Cancer	26	35
Diabetes	—	1
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	22	34
Heart Disease	45	56
Other diseases of circulatory system	7	6
Bronchitis	10	6
Pneumonia	8	7
Other respiratory diseases	1	—
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	2	1
Diarrhoea (under two years)	—	—
Appendicitis	—	—
Other digestive diseases	3	4
Nephritis	5	2
Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	—	—
Other maternal causes	—	1
Premature birth	3	—
Congenital debility, etc.	5	3
Suicide	3	4
Road traffic accidents	5	1
Other violent causes	4	5
All other causes	13	16

Laboratory Facilities:—

(1) Water. Samples of water as supplied from the West Surrey Water Company are submitted to chemical and bacteriological examination by Messrs. Rideal, Rideal and Sciver. These samples are taken in rotation from the Urban District of Walton and Weybridge, and the Urban District of Chertsey. The results of the investigations made during the year are tabulated on page thirteen.

(2) Specimens relating to infectious diseases and routine samples of water and milk have been examined at the Public Health Laboratory at Epsom since 1944. Specimens of an urgent nature, *e.g.*, diphtheria swabs, can be sent for examination to the Laboratory at St. Peter's Hospital, Chertsey. Payment for these services ceased in March, 1947, and this very useful and necessary work in the control of infectious diseases and examination of food in relation to cases or outbreaks of food poisoning is now undertaken at no cost to the Local Authority.

Routine samples of water, milk and ice-cream have been examined at Epsom throughout the year.

The Bacteriologist at the Epsom Laboratory is also prepared to act in a consultative capacity and this service is much appreciated.

Ambulance Facilities:—

Name of Authority and Telephone Number.	Number of Ambulances.	Address of Ambulance Station.
Case of Infectious Disease :		
Ottershaw Joint Hospital Board. Ottershaw 30.	Two	The Isolation Hospital, Ottershaw.
Non-infectious Cases :		
The Walton and Weybridge U.D.C. Walton-on-Thames 2323.	One	Council Offices, Hersham Road, Walton.
The Committee of the Weybridge Hospital. Weybridge 209.	One	Weybridge Hospital, Church Street, Weybridge.

Nursing in the Home.

Midwives:—

There are three Midwives practising in the Urban District and supervised by the County Health Department. In addition there are four practising at the Walton Maternity Home.

District Nurses:—

Three District Nurses are in practice in the Urban District.

Health Visitors:—

There are four County Health Visitors in the District who visit homes under the School Medical and Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

Clinics and Treatment Centres:—

The Surrey County Council have provided the following clinics and treatment centres under their School Medical Service and Maternity and Child Welfare Schemes.

Centre.	Address.	Clinic.	Day.
Walton	S.C.C. Clinic, Rodney Road	School Medical	Every Tuesday
		Child Welfare	Every Friday
		Ante Natal	Every Thursday
Weybridge	Locke King Clinic, Devonshire Rd.	School Medical	Every Tuesday
		Child Welfare	Every Tuesday
		Ante Natal	3rd Tuesday
Hersham	S.C.C. Clinic, Rodney Road, Walton	Child Welfare	Every Thursday

Tuberculosis Dispensary:—

Walton, Weybridge and Hersham are served by the Tuberculosis Dispensary at Locke King Clinic, Weybridge, where the County Tuberculosis Officer attends for consultations on the 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th Friday of each month at 10.0 a.m. and the 2nd Friday at 2.0 p.m.

Venereal Disease:—

The following clinics are held for any persons wishing to attend from this area :

GUILDFORD:—Royal Surrey County Hospital.

Males—Tuesdays 5.0 to 7.0 p.m.

Fridays 5.0 to 7.0 p.m.

Saturdays 9.30 to 11.30 a.m.

Females—Mondays 2.0 to 7.0 p.m.

Thursdays 9.30 to 11.30 a.m.

KINGSTON:—Kingston County Hospital, Wolverton Avenue.

Females—5.0 to 7.0 p.m.

WOKING:—Woking and District Victoria Hospital.

Males—Thursdays 5.0 to 7.0 p.m.

Females—Tuesdays 9.30 to 11.0 a.m.

Fridays 5.0 to 7.0 p.m.

Hospitals:—

Voluntary General Hospitals serving Walton, Weybridge and Hersham :

The Hospital, Weybridge.

The Hospital, Rodney Road, Walton-on-Thames.

The establishment at Botleys Park E.M.S. Hospital, Chertsey, now known as St. Peter's Hospital, has proved very helpful to General Practitioners and their patients in the district.

Infectious Disease Hospital:—

Ottershaw Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Ottershaw.

Supply of Insulin:—

Insulin was provided in one case by the local Council under Ministry of Health Circular 2734/43.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply:—

The district is within the area of supply of the West Surrey Water Company, the works of which are situated on the banks of the River Thames in the Walton area, the intake being obtained a short distance above Walton Bridge. Samples of water as supplied by this Company are submitted to chemical and bacteriological examination by Messrs. Rideal, Rideal and Sciver. The samples are taken in rotation from the Urban District of Walton and Weybridge and the Urban District of Chertsey. Results of the examination of these waters are given on page thirteen.

Main Water Supplies:—

Direct to houses.

Estimated No. 9,466. Estimated Population 36,380.

By means of standpipes.

Estimated No. 12. Estimated Population 50.

All standpipes are private and usually within the curtilages of the houses concerned. No street standpipes are provided.

It may be taken as an almost universal rule that where a main supply and adequate sewerage are available, water is laid on indoors.

Water Samples:—

During the year six samples of water were taken for analysis from different parts of the Walton and Weybridge district.

The figure for albuminoid ammonia was occasionally high, varying between 0.004 and 0.015 in parts per 100,000.

The figure for oxygen consumed from permanganate was also high on occasions, varying from 0.0112 to 0.2048 in parts per 100,000.

The Thames is obviously liable to contamination and it is only through efficient storage, filtration, and chlorination that water from this source can be rendered bacteriologically fit for drinking and domestic purposes. The bacteriological reports varied little from month to month, except on one occasion during the floods when coliform organisms were present in 10 ml.

At the end of 1937, an interchange of water reports was arranged with the West Surrey Water Company. There is now available to the Medical Officer of Health a fortnightly check on

the condition of main water supply in the district, and these reports come before the Public Health Committee at all their meetings.

Rivers and Streams:—

During the year complaints were received from the Thames Conservancy of the danger in times of flood of untreated sewerage polluting the River Thames from the irrigation beds of the Apps Court Sewage Disposal Works.

To remedy this the Council applied to the Ministry of Health for a loan to construct alternative means of treatment and disposal. A Court of Enquiry took place at the end of the year and it is hoped that this potential source of pollution will soon be removed.

Field Common:—

Sixty dwellings (85% of the total) are now connected to the mains of the West Surrey Water Company.

Summary of Analysis of Samples of Water taken from the supply of the West Surrey Water Co., in the Walton and Weybridge District.

Date sample was taken ...	17th January.	7th February.	28th March.	13th June.	28th August.	28th November.
Organisms per ml. at 20°C in 72 hours on agar ...	29	18	41	2	8	2
Organisms per ml. at 20°C in 72 hours on gelatine ...	14	4	20	1	6	1
Organisms per ml. at 37.5°C in 48 hours on agar ...	28	31	30	8	4	4
Coliform organisms ...	Present in 10 ml.	Absent from 50 ml.	Absent from 50 ml.	Absent from 50 ml.	Absent from 50 ml.	Absent from 50 ml.

Chemical Examination in parts per 100,000.

Free Ammonia ...	0.075	0.024	0.012	0.0015	0.018	0.0048
Albuminoid Ammonia ...	0.0075	0.0045	0.015	0.009	0.0072	0.0066
Oxygen consumed from per- manganate (4 hrs. at 80°C)	0.16	0.102	0.2048	0.0112	0.0784	0.0656

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Mr. F. Hulme, the Cleansing Officer, has kindly supplied the following details :

Refuse and Salvage Collection:—

During 1947, labour difficulties persisted, and the work was hindered by delay in deliveries of new Refuse Collection Vehicles to replace the old and obsolete machines in use. The Department, however, was able in the course of the year to place the work of Refuse and Salvage Collection on a weekly basis, with a twice-weekly collection from food shops.

The deterioration in the economic level of the country gave added emphasis to the Salvage work of the Council, and the public responded so well that increased Salvage Returns were obtained, although the figures for the country as a whole showed a considerable decrease. This work is now concentrated mainly on the recovery of Waste-paper, Kitchen Waste, Bones, Textiles, and Bottles.

Refuse Disposal:—

A Chaseside Mechanical Light Excavator with a $\frac{1}{2}$ -cu. yd. Bucket, and equipped with a bulldozer plate, was delivered in August, 1947, and has enabled the work of this section of the department to be placed on a good standard. The machine is to be used to remove the top-soil of low-lying ground subject to flooding, and place it on top of a layer of house refuse.

Statistics:—

Refuse and Salvage Collected and Disposed of 12,864 tons.

Tonnage per working day 46.1 tons.

Cost per ton.—£1 1s. 11d. (38.4% increase on 1939).

Cost per 1,000 population.—£376 (73% increase on 1939).

(Increase on 1939.—Wages, 80% ; Transport, 75%).

Salvage Receipts:—

		t.	c.	q.	£	s.	d.
Waste-paper	...	368	13	—	2844	15	11
Light Scrap Iron	...	6	4	—	7	14	9
Non-ferrous metals	...	—	7	—	17	0	6
Textiles	...	38	3	—	990	14	3
Scrap Tyres	...	3	14	—	13	7	5
Bones	...	2	13	—	16	9	7
Kitchen Waste	...	362	8	—	880	6	5
Bottles and Jars	...	61	10	—	1166	18	5
Cullet	...	15	5	—	37	13	6
Miscellaneous	...	—	17	—	7	14	0
		859	14	—	£5982	14	9

Salvage Income per working day.—£21 4s. 0d.

Salvage Income per 1,000 population per month.—£13 5s. 0d.

Salvage (Weight) per 1,000 population per month.—38.7 cwts.

Cesspool Emptying:—

A Dennis 750 gall. Gully and Cesspool Emptier was used for this work. The release of premises from Military Requisition caused a substantial increase in this work.

Number of premises where cesspools were emptied	153
Number of cesspool emptyings ...	819
Number of loads ...	1792
Total Volume removed ...	1,344,000 gallons.

The employees of the Department were provided during the year with Overall Clothing, and Waterproofed Mackintoshes and Leggings.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector:—

Dwelling houses inspected under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925 and 1932	4
Dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health Acts	147
Dwelling houses visited with regard to housing accommodation and overcrowding	14
Premises inspected other than above, including inspections on complaint, enquiries re infectious diseases, etc. ...	414
Re-inspections under Public Health and Housing Acts ...	1,157
Other Inspections :—	
Food-stores	135
Slaughterhouses	349
Cowsheds and Dairies	33
Bakehouses	2
Workshops, etc.	81
Moveable Dwellings	98

Preliminary Notices:—

Number of Preliminary Notices outstanding at the beginning of the year	161
Number of Preliminary Notices served during year ...	170
Number of such Notices complied with during year ...	185
Number of Preliminary Notices outstanding at the end of the year	146

Statutory Notices:—

Number of Statutory Notices served :

Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, served 21, complied with 9.

Section 45 of the Public Health Act, 1936, served 2, complied with 1.

Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936, served 1, complied with 1.

Section 10 of the Housing Act, 1936, served 1, complied with 1.

Other Matters:—

Number of complaints received	167
Number of Letters sent	670
Number of Letters received	468
Number of Samples of Milk taken for examination ...	33

Number of Samples of Water taken for analysis from the supply of the West Surrey Water Company	8
Number of Samples of Water taken from wells, etc. ...	37
Number of rooms disinfected after cases of infectious disease	14

*Includes 138 rats and mice reports arising from Ministry of Food Campaign.

Work carried out as a result of the Sanitary Inspectors' representations, 1947:—

HOUSES.

Damp walls	62
Walls repaired	46
Outside plastering repaired	10
Inside plastering repaired	74
Floors repaired or renewed	62
Roofs renewed or repaired	77
Chutes, downpipes or gutters renewed or repaired ...	39
Chimneys repaired	11
Ceilings repaired	70
Doors and frames repaired	30
Lighting and ventilation of rooms improved	1
Window sashes or frames renewed or repaired ...	72
Window cords renewed	28
Staircases repaired	3
Grates or Ovens repaired or renewed	20
Wash boilers provided or repaired	9
Food Stores provided or improved	3
Walls or ceilings cleansed and redecorated	53
Yard paving relaid or repaired	1
Nuisances from animals abated	3
Accumulations removed	3
Ashbins provided	8
Water taps or pipes repaired	8
Water samples taken for analysis	2
Miscellaneous repairs and nuisances abated	20

DRAINAGE.

Drains re-laid	1
Drains repaired	5
Drains cleansed	26
Inspection or Intercepting chambers repaired	6
Soil pipes or ventilating shafts fixed or repaired ...	4
Sinks provided	2
Sinks trapped or waste pipes repaired	5

WATER-CLOSETS.

W.C.'s reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	3
New pans and traps fixed	...	...	...	...	...	29
Flushing apparatus repaired	...	...	...	...	...	20
Miscellaneous repairs	...	...	...	...	...	24

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Number of houses fumigated with insecticides	4
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

FOOD SHOPS, etc.

Cleanliness improved	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ashbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	1

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

Limewashing or cleansing carried out	1
--------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Factories Act, 1937:—

There are 127 factories with power and 51 factories without power on the Register. Included among the latter are 15 bakehouses and 6 laundries. Among the factories with power there are 5 laundries, 13 bakehouses and 4 establishments for making sausages.

1.—Inspections:—

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	51	4	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which Section 7 applies				
(a) Subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement) Order, 1938†	—	—	—	—
(b) Others	127	75	2	—
(iii) Other Premises under the Act‡ excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	178	79	2	Nil

2.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found:—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)					
Overcrowding (S.2) ...					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	1			
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)					
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	1			1	
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1		1	
(c) Not separate for sexes					
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework)					
TOTAL ...	3	2	Nil	2	Nil

The Shops Act, 1934:—

No action was found necessary.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928:—

No rag flock is manufactured in the district.

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Byelaws or Regulations:—

No offensive trade has been established within the district, and there is no common lodging house.

Byelaws:—

Byelaws under the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to Tents, Vans and Sheds are in operation.

Byelaws under the Housing Act, 1936, relating to Working Class Houses and to Houses let in Lodgings are also in force.

Smoke Abatement:—

Difficulties in obtaining appropriate grades of fuel continued to give rise to unsatisfactory conditions with respect to a factory chimney.

Swimming Pools:—

There are two private swimming pools to which the public are admitted.

The Council have a bathing station on the bank of the Thames at Walton, and a similar station at Weybridge ; during the Summer months attendants are provided.

No Byelaws are available in this district in relation to the supervision of swimming pools.

Mosquito Control:—

Some trouble has been experienced by mosquito breeding during the year. Larvicidal oil has been sprayed into ponds and ditches as frequently as possible.

Eradication of Bed Bugs:—

Number of houses in respect of which action was necessary :

		<i>Found to be infested</i>	<i>Disinfested</i>
(a) Council Houses	...	Nil	Nil
(b) Other Houses	...	4	4

Disinfection has been carried out by spraying with Zaldecide, in some cases coupled with Fumigation.

The dwellings of all prospective occupiers of Council Houses are inspected for general cleanliness and absence of vermin.

Council Houses requiring disinfestation are ordinarily dealt with by the Local Authority. Privately owned houses and all cases where hydrocyanic acid gas treatment is necessary are dealt with by contractors at the owners' expense.

Schools:—

All public elementary schools are provided with main water supply and main drainage.

Visits are paid to schools in which cases of infectious disease have occurred. The Memorandum on Closure and Exclusion from School is followed, and family and other contacts are excluded where indicated.

It was not found necessary to close any school temporarily during the year on account of infectious disease.

HOUSING.

At the end of the year forty-eight permanent Council houses and one hundred temporary houses had been completed and were in occupation. During the year accommodation was found for one hundred and forty-five families in new houses or requisitioned properties.

A further one hundred and forty-four permanent Council houses were in various stages of erection at the end of the year.

1.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year:—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	151
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	248
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ...	4
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	4
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	150

2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notice:—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	137
--	-----

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—

A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	2
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices ...	—
(a)	By owners	2
(b)	By local authority in default of owners ...	—

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	22
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	9
(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	—

C.—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	1
(3) Number of dwelling houses made fit in pursuance of undertakings under Section 11 ...	1

D.—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made	—
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit	—

Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding :—

All cases of overcrowding coming to notice are referred to the Housing Committee for re-housing as and when accommodation becomes available.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) **Milk Supply:—**

The following are the number of Milk Dealers on the Register, kept under the Milk and Dairies Orders, 1926 and 1938 :—

Cowkeepers who are wholesale purveyors	7
Cowkeepers who are wholesale and retail purveyors	2
Cowkeepers who are retail purveyors	—
Retail purveyors	23

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936–1946:—

The following licences were granted to sell designated milks :—

Tuberculin Tested (Dealers)	3
„ „ (Bottling)	1
Pasteurised Milk (Dealers)	10

Thirty-three inspections were made of Cowsheds and Dairies, and where infringements of the Milk and Dairies Order were detected, notices were issued requiring compliance.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936–1946.

Tuberculin Tested Milk:—

Six samples were taken for bacteriological examination and one failed to reach the required standard of cleanliness. This was a bulk sample from several farms producing Tuberculin Tested milk outside the County area. Individual samples from producers required to be taken before the unsatisfactory producer could be identified, and the matter rectified after communication with the Local Authority concerned.

Accredited Milk:—

Eighteen samples were taken from local producers for bacteriological examination and the Methylene Blue Reduction Test. Four producers failed to pass these tests on first sampling, but all reached the required standard on subsequent sampling with the exception of one local producer, whose licence to produce Accredited milk was suspended.

Pasteurised Milk:—

Seventeen samples were taken, of which one failed to pass the required test. After further investigation and sampling the required standard was attained.

The following is a list of licensed producers of Designated Milk in the area :—

Accredited:—

R. H. Timmis, Longmore Farm, Esher Road, Esher.

P. H. Ricks, Brooklands Farm, Brooklands Lane, Weybridge.

G. W. T. Scott, South Weylands Farm, Hersham Road, Esher.

Tuberculin Tested:—

A. Ezra, Home Farm, Foxwarren Park, Redhill Road, Cobham.

Accredited Milk Licences are issued by the County Council on being satisfied, after consultation with the District Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector, that the dairy and cowsheds are up to an agreed standard, and are provided with proper cleansing and sterilising equipment. The conditions applicable to these licences are not so onerous as those required for Tuberculin Tested Milk, in that animals have only to pass a clinical examination and do not require to be subjected to a tuberculin test. The County Council has power to revoke these licences if, on sampling, the Accredited Standard is not consistently maintained.

No applications were received in respect of “ High Temperature Short Time ” pasteurisation as a result of the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1941, which permitted Local Authorities to license alternative types of pasteurisation plants.

Ice Cream:—

The majority of dealers in the district sell ice cream manufactured by reputable firms. Samples of these have been examined and found to reach a high standard of purity.

There are a small number of dealers who make their own ice cream locally on premises registered with the Local Authority. Samples have been examined and have not always been found satisfactory on bacteriological analysis. In the majority of cases a cold mixture is made with ice cream powder and milk powder before being frozen. The product is potentially open to contamination by the hands of the maker and by insufficiently cleansed or sterilised utensils and containers.

It has been found that satisfactory samples are readily obtained if the mixture is boiled and then cooled as rapidly as possible before being placed in the ice cream machine. Manu-

facturers producing a few gallons of ice cream at a time have been unable to obtain, owing to the supply position, suitable cooling equipment and special thermometers. It has, therefore, not been possible this year to insist on the procedure as laid down in the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations which came into force in May, 1947.

(b) **Meat:—**

Four hundred and forty-five inspections of butchers' shops, slaughterhouses and other premises were made. All meat found unfit for human consumption was voluntarily surrendered, no magistrate's order being required in any case.

The Ministry of Food's Government Slaughterhouse is established at Messrs. Grimditch, Hersham. Details of work carried out are given later in the Report.

It is necessary for the Sanitary Inspector's Assistant to attend at these premises daily and approximately ninety per cent. of his time is so required in meat inspection duties only.

There is one other licensed slaughterhouse which has not been in use during the year.

Unfit Meat and other Foods surrendered during 1947:—

								lbs.
Beef:—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	149
Pork:—								
9 Carcases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1284
20 Pigs Heads	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	393
16 Pigs Plucks	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	108
3 pairs Pigs Lungs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
10 Pigs Livers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Various Parts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	88
Mutton:—								
49 Carcases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1196
99 Sheeps Plucks	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	347
1375 Sheeps Livers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3163
Various Parts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	66
1 Sheeps Head	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Veal:—								
5 Carcases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	233
1 Calves Liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
7 Calves Plucks	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25

Unfit Meat and other Foods surrendered during 1947—continued.

Imported:—

	lbs.
Lamb	34
Ox Liver	7

Tinned Goods:—

Meat, 440 tins	846
Fish, 135 tins	61
Jam, 55 jars	136
Milk, 299 tins	271
Vegetables, 389 tins	488
Soups, 7 tins	8
Fruit, 27 tins	58
Pickles, 29 jars	27
Tomatoes, 2 tins	2

Other Goods:—

Cheese	7
Wet Fish	1834
Cereals	26
Sweets	178
20 Fowls	133
Sausages	31
Tomatoes	48
Sugar	8
Oatmeal	14
Prunes	6

Carcases Inspected and Condemned:—

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	Nil	Nil	2,514	21,580	792
Number inspected	Nil	Nil	2,514	21,580	792
All disease except Tuberculosis :					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	4	49	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	7	1,425	21
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	.43%	6.78%	3.53%
Tuberculosis only :					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	19
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	.039%	Nil	2.9%

Foods and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928:—

The administration of the Foods and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, is carried out by the Surrey County Council. Dr. W. G. Patterson, the County Medical Officer, has kindly supplied the following table of work done in the Walton and Weybridge Urban District during 1947.

Articles			Analysed		Adulterated or deteriorated		Prose- cutions	Con- victions
			Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal		
Milk	...	...	29	1				
Baking Powder		...		1				
Butter	...	...		2				
Chocolate Spread		...		1				
Cocoa	...	...		1				
Coffee	...	...		1				
Drugs	...	...		10		3		
French Mustard		...		1				
Meat Savoury Rissole				1				
Pepper	...	...		1				
Pickles	...	...		1				
Sausages		...		1				
Spirits	...	...	1	3				
Vinegar	...	...		7		3		
Ground Nutmeg		...		1				
Totals			30	33		6		

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever:—

Forty-two cases were notified during the year as compared with fifty-five in the previous year. Fifteen of these cases were admitted to hospital for treatment, the remainder being treated at home where adequate isolation was available. Three of these hospital cases were of the septic type and developed ear or sinus infection. These reacted well to Penicillin and were discharged from hospital after one month. Two of the cases were admitted from Weybridge Hospital where they had developed the surgical type of scarlet fever following burns. The remaining cases were uncomplicated and were discharged after three weeks' isolation. There was no mortality.

Diphtheria:—

No cases occurred among children of school or pre-school age.

Seven cases were admitted to hospital for observation but were discharged after a few days as simple tonsillitis. One case only was confirmed in the case of an adult female who had arrived in the district from Europe a few days previously. The disease had obviously been imported.

This is the second consecutive year on record that no cases occurred among children up to school-leaving age and emphasises the fact that the vast majority of parents have taken advantage of the facilities available in the district for diphtheria immunisation.

Throat swabs are examined at the Epsom Public Health Laboratory or at St. Peter's Hospital, Chertsey, when no transport is available.

Serum is available to medical practitioners at the Weybridge and Walton Hospitals or at the Council Offices, Weybridge, on application.

It is now the practice to give reinforcing doses of A.P.T. to children entering the infant schools in the district in addition to the primary course at one year of age.

Diphtheria Immunisation:—

The following represents the number of children of school and pre-school age immunised by the prophylactic Alum Precipitated Toxoid:—

Immunisation of children aged 5 to 14 at schools ... 52

Immunisation of children of school and pre-school
age at Immunisation Clinics :

S.C.C. Clinic, Walton : Pre-school children ... 43

In addition two hundred and eighty-five reinforcing doses were given, mainly to children entering school at 5 years of age.

In addition to the figures given above, five hundred and seventy-three children under 15 years of age were immunised either by Private Practitioners or Assistant County Medical Officers at Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics.

The following is the estimated position showing the percentage of children immunised in the district :—

Estimated population of children (Registrar General's estimate, mid 1947) :

Under 5 years ...	...	...	...	...	...	3,070
Percentage immunised	...	...	...	...	...	66%
5 to 14 years ...	...	...	...	...	...	4,640
Percentage immunised	...	...	...	...	...	76%

It should be noted that diphtheria immunisation is not usually carried out until a child is approaching one year of age.

Acute Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis):—

The district did not escape the alarming outbreak of poliomyelitis which was prevalent throughout the country in the summer and autumn.

Eight cases were notified, including one of polioencephalitis, which is really a similar infection.

The first two cases occurred in Walton at the end of July. One was a girl of eight years who was admitted to hospital with paralysis of one arm. She made a good recovery. The second was a baby of 5 months who died a few hours after admission to hospital with severe meningeal signs. Diagnosis was confirmed following post mortem examination. The third case occurred in August in a male adult of 26 years. He was admitted to hospital and developed respiratory paralysis the following day, paralysis so severe that the mechanical respirator was of no avail. The fourth case was a child of 3 years who developed weakness of one leg following the usual acute illness. She made a good recovery. The fifth case also occurred in August in a child of 13 months. Minor facial palsy resulted.

All the above cases were treated in the Ottershaw Isolation Hospital.

Three further cases occurred in adults. Two were mild cases and were treated in their homes. The third case was treated in a general hospital outside the district.

Several further suspicious cases were seen by the Medical Officer of Health at the request of general practitioners but after further investigation or observation in hospital the diagnosis of poliomyelitis was ruled out.

It is remarkable that no contact contracted the disease from actual cases. The homes of cases were visited but in only one instance prior to the actual case was there a history of transient illness which might have been an abortive type of the disease.

Exclusion from school of child contacts and suspension of social activities in adult contacts were advised in all cases. It is not possible at the moment to identify carriers of the causal virus. It was therefore deemed wise to advise against social gatherings of children during the summer vacation.

The use of paddling pools and sand pits was discontinued in recreation grounds.

Pneumonia:—

Nineteen cases of primary or influenzal pneumonia were notified.

The death rate from all forms of pneumonia was 0.41 per 1,000 of the resident population.

Scabies and Lice:—

The Cleansing Station at the S.C.C. Clinic in Walton was again put to very good use.

The work is carried out mainly under the supervision of the Surrey County Council's Health Visitors.

During the year two hundred and forty-one attendances were made at Walton.

Routine treatment for scabies now consists in the use of a twenty-five per cent. emulsion of Benzyl Benzoate. It is advisable that prophylactic treatment be given to all members of the family when a case of scabies is discovered. For this purpose Benzyl Benzoate in the form of a vanishing cream has proved successful.

For lice infestations the solution Lethane 384 Special has been successful. Used prophylactically it is of value in preventing re-infestations of the scalp and in the form of a hair lotion should

similarly be employed by all members of the family during the time treatment is being undertaken by others.

In a few cases it has been found necessary to carry out disinfestation in the home when school children are becoming re-infested after individual treatment.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases:—

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to I.D. Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	42	15	—
Diphtheria	1	1	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid Fever)	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Pneumonia	19	—	15
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Erysipelas	8	1	—
Malaria	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Measles	358	1	—
Whooping Cough	78	1	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever	2	3	—
Dysentery	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis	7	7	2
Polioencephalitis	1	1	—

Notifiable Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis):—
According to Age Groups.

AGE			Smallpox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid fever)	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Measles	Whooping Cough	Dysentery	Poliomyelitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cerebro-spinal Fever	Encephalitis Lethargica	Malaria	Poliomyelitis	Polioencephalitis
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1—2 years	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	26	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
2—3 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	44	11	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
3—4 years	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	21	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
4—5 years	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	37	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 years	—	19	—	—	—	6	—	202	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
10—15 years	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—25 years	—	5	—	—	—	1	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
25—35 years	—	3	1	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
35—40 years	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—65 years	—	—	—	1	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 years and upwards			—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unspecified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL			—	42	1	1	—	19	8	358	78	1	—	—	2	—	—	7	1

Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases:—

The following cases occurred in Elementary Schools and Day Nurseries :—

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Chickenpox	63	16	23	7	9	42	22	—	8	10	28	42
German Measles	1	—	5	—	9	—	11	—	1	5	10	—
Mumps	5	1	1	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	—
Jaundice	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The Head Teachers of the local elementary schools forward to the Medical Officer weekly returns of non-notifiable infectious diseases. This is a useful procedure which is much appreciated, and is a way in which the Medical Officer of Health can be kept informed of the prevalence of infectious diseases other than those required to be notified by medical practitioners.

Tuberculosis—New Cases and Mortality:—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1—5 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
5—15 years	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
15—25 years	5	3	—	1	—	1	—	—
25—35 years	3	3	—	—	1	1	—	—
35—45 years	7	2	—	—	2	2	—	1
45—55 years	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—65 years	1	1	—	—	3	—	—	—
65 upwards	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Unspecified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	19	10	1	2	8	4	2	1

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925. Public Health Act, 1936. Section 172:—

No case arose in which action was necessary under the above Act and Regulations.

Tuberculosis Care Committee:—

Very useful work was carried out by this committee during the year. All cases requiring help are considered on notification and on discharge from a sanatorium. Particular attention is paid

to adequate housing for affected families, for it is realised that prevention of infection in the home is all important. The Housing Committee have been most helpful in giving priority to such deserving cases.

The Ministry of Health's scheme of mass miniature radiography and financial allowances introduced in 1943 and administered by the County Medical Officer of Health represents such an advance in the detection and treatment of this problem that some remarks as to its significance are desirable.

By mass miniature radiography one can rapidly take small X-ray plates of a person's chest and so refer any suspicious cases for a fuller examination. In this manner early pulmonary disease can be recognised and treatment instituted at a stage in the illness when the chances of recovery are good. The mass miniature radiography unit visited the district during the year.

As regards financial allowances, these are a fundamental necessity to ensure that the case after detection receives adequate treatment without undue hardship falling upon either the patient or the family. Maintenance allowances and special payments are available to promote a frame of mind in the patient and family conducive to recovery as well as contributing materially towards any loss of income.

